



## India: Raksha Bandhan/Rakhi

### Post-visit Activity: Quick Write

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Use the word bank below to complete a Quick Write in which you describe the Raksha Bandhan Festival of India. Be certain to include the background reason as well as how it is celebrated today.

India	Hindu	Rakhi	brother
legend	love	protection	Indus River
sister	thread	bracelet	August





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**Background:** The traditional Hindu festival 'Raksha Bandhan' (knot of protection) was came into origin about 6000 years back when Aryans created first civilization - The Indus Valley Civilization. With many languages and cultures, the traditional method to Rakhi festival celebration differs from place to place across India. A number of Hindu legends describe a woman tying a thread around her brother or husband’s wrist to protect him from harm. The most well-known of these involves Lord Indra, who prevailed in battle after his wife Indrani empowered the thread with sacred mantras.

**How Celebrated:** Raksha Bandhan is a day to express the lasting affection and loyalty between siblings. Raksha Bandhan involves a girl tying a thread (Rakhi) around the hand of her brothers and other boys she considers her brothers. Raksha Bandhan is an occasion to celebrate the sacred bond of love and affection between siblings with lots of verve. On the day of Rakhi festival, the sister ties Rakhi on the wrist of her brother and both make prayer to God for the well- being of each other. Sisters perform 'aarti' and put tilak on the forehead of her brother. In return, brothers make promise to take care of his sister under all circumstances. Usually, brothers gift something to the sister to mark the occasion. The mirth that surrounds the festival is unsurpassed. Amidst the merriment the rituals are also followed with great devotion. In return, brothers pampers and blesses the sisters and promises to protect her from all the evils of this world. He also present a token of his love and affection as a Rakhi gift.

**Dates:** The full moon day of the Hindu month of Shravan, usually August.

**General information quoted from:**  
<http://www.globalroadwarrior.com/#mode=country&regionId=66&uri=country->

